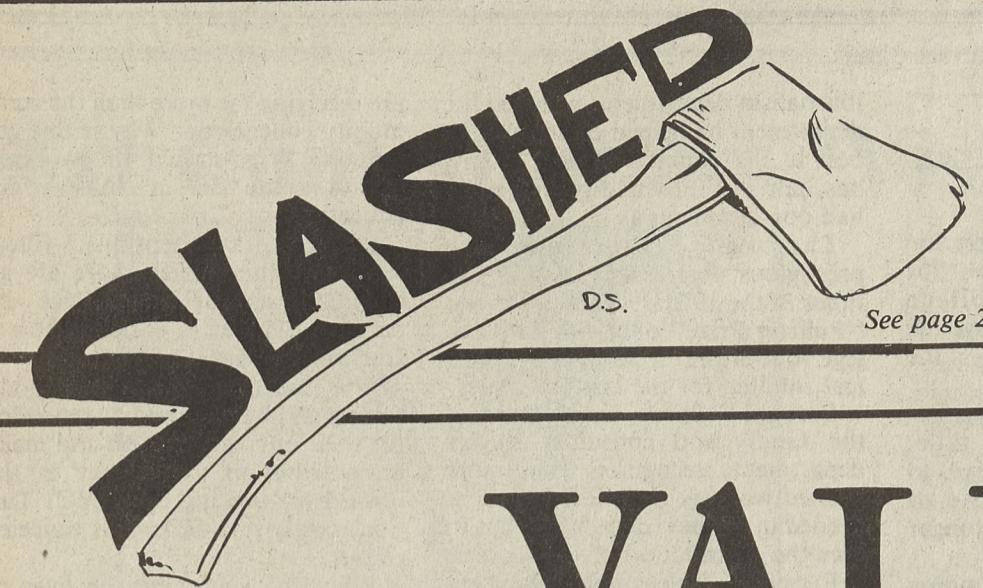


5-16-91

Inside Today:



Summer 1991
class schedules
available May 20

Cabaret: Curtain Up

See page 4

VALLEY STAR

Van Nuys, California

Serving Valley College for 42 years

Vol. 42, No. 27

NEWS BRIEFS

Star Survives

Last week's issue of the *Star* was the last district financed issue. However, the *Star* will continue to publish thanks to the funding and support of various people and departments on the LAVC campus.

The *Star* now expects to publish through May 30 as originally scheduled.

The people who have helped with funding and other assistance include: ASU Senate and the campus clubs that compose the Senate; ASU Executive Council; LAVC Theater Arts department, Chairperson, Pete Parkin; Joe Milton, public relations, the cast and crew of *Cabaret*; Great Leap dance troupe; Salvador Bernal, MEChA president and MEChA.

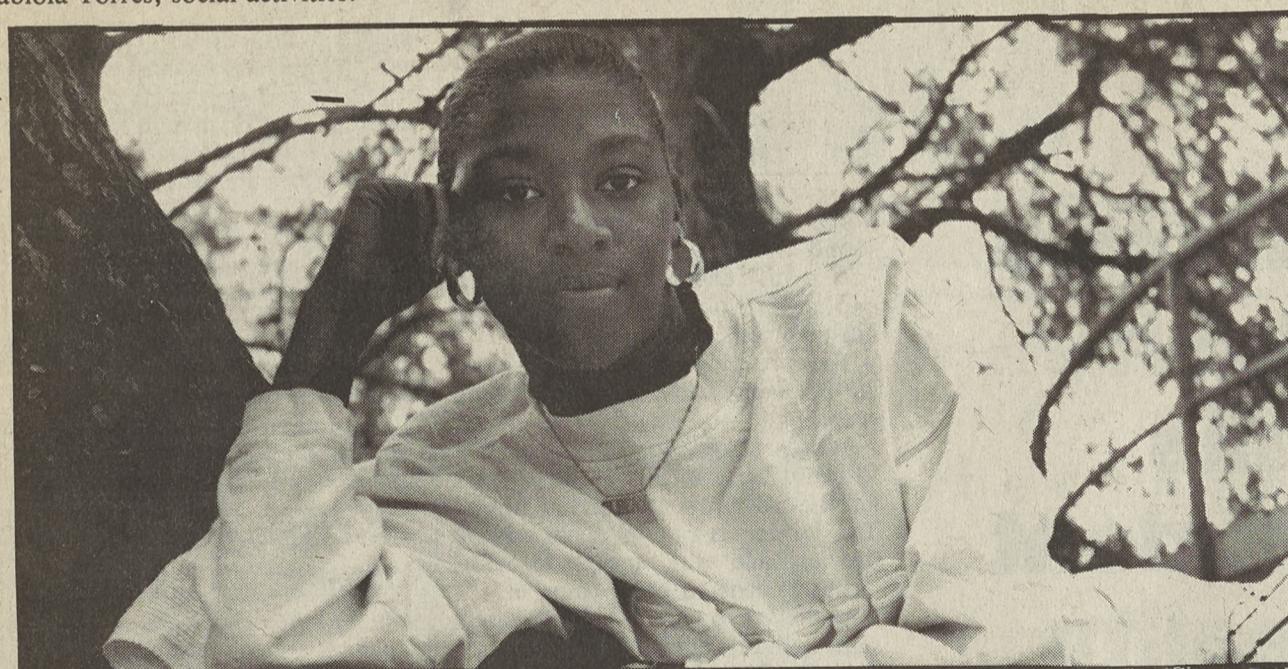
Support and funding from ASU commissioners include: David Zolan, Jewish studies; Refugio Lepe, individuals with disabilities; Ernesto Ortega, Chicano studies; Jessica Hernandez, public relations; Ignacio Izaguirre, Asian concerns; and Fabiola Torres, social activities.

On the scene . . .



CAMPUS RESCUE — A fire helicopter lands in parking lot G adjacent to the baseball diamond to transport a car-crash victim to Holy Cross

hospital last Tuesday. The accident occurred about 4:30 p.m. on Magnolia between Coldwater and Whitsett. The name was not released.



SITTIN' IN A TREE — Melanie Clark, who placed third in the So. Cal. finals, will join the team at the

state championships. All other team members finished in the top ten at finals.

Capt. Wolf dances into retirement

By JENNIFER CASE
News Editor

John Joseph Wolf, sitting confidently behind his desk, remembers the time when he thought there was more out there than electrical work.

After more than three years at Mc Donald Douglas working as an electrician, Wolf decided to take the Los Angeles Sheriff's examination.

"I thought there was something better out there," he said. "I've never regretted it (becoming a deputy) since."

Now after approximately 16 years at LAVC, working his way up from officer to captain, Wolf plans to retire after this semester.

"It's that time," he said. "I want to kick back for a while."

Wolf said his main incentive for retiring now is the 7 percent annuity offered by the Los Angeles Community College District to the faculty and administrators to retire this year.

Otherwise known as the "Golden Handshake," the incentive offers more money per month to those that choose to retire this year. The offer is for a limited time only.

Wolf said his wife and daughters, who teach high school and also have



VROOM — Captain J.J. Wolf will retire after 16 years at LAVC. He plans to spend more time with his family and will continue teaching.

school-related careers, are happy about his choice to retire now.

"I was going to wait another year, but I talked it over with my family and decided now was the time," he said. "My wife of 34 years has been very supportive during my tenure in law enforcement."

Already making plans, Wolf wants

passionate, said he will miss LAVC.

"The people I work with have treated me well," he said.

The people who work with Wolf speak highly of him and don't want him to leave.

"He's like a father to everybody — he's so understanding," Officer Ken Adams said.

His office manager, Nora Horwich, said Wolf was the best boss she has ever had.

"We're really going to miss him," she said.

Wolf enjoyed working here and described his experience at Valley as "fascinating and rewarding."

"Working here has kept my mental attitude young by being with the students," he said. "I like that kind of thing. I'll miss it."

Since Wolf became captain, he said the campus police force has grown.

"I've left a legacy here through the people I've hired and the friends I've made," he said.

Although leaving definitely has its downside, he is looking forward to having more free time.

"I think it's time to go," he concluded. "It's just one of those things."

A replacement for Wolf has not yet been named.

Union negotiates grievances

By JENNIFER CASE
News Editor

In what was called "the single major labor personnel move in California's history," the Administrators Association of the Los Angeles Community College District chose the California Teamsters Union (Local 911) to represent them in the Shared Governance contract negotiations and grievances with the district for the upcoming year.

Sam Mayo, president-elect of the administrators association, said after the administrators' proposed contract with the district was rejected, they decided to get legal representation to negotiate the contract. Mayo is also dean of academic affairs at LAVC.

Mayo said the original contract submitted to the district was a five-page document, but the district rejected it because it was too long.

"The faculty contract that was signed by the American Federation of see UNION, pg. 3

Monarchs run full steam ahead to championships

By ANNA VILLA
Sports Editor

Running at full steam and with third place win in the SoCal finals, the women's track team is off to the state championships.

As a result of Saturday's meet, the Monarchs are sending six of their top women to compete among the best in the state, a feat that last week James Harvey track coach, was unsure would be accomplished.

"They ran the best they ever ran," Harvey said. "This time,

everyone came full circle; they finally put their shoes on and ran."

LAVC, with 79.5 points, came in third behind first place winner, El Camino College who tallied 136.5 points and second place winner San Diego Mesa who ran away with 103.

Once again Melanie Clarke added her fuel to the flame taking over first place in the heptathlon, the high jump, and the 440m. She took second in the 200m, and third in the long jump.

What pleased Harvey the most he said, was that the rest of the team did their share of the work, "This

team is not made up of Melanie, it's LAVC track," Harvey said. "Everyone gave Melanie some help this time and she really needed it because she was sick."

All the team members finished in the top ten at the finals. Jennifer Stewart took second in the high jump and fourth in the javelin, Laurie Mertes finished fifth in the high jump, Pam Martin slid into fourth in the 100m hurdles and Jill Cameron took seventh in the javelin.

Kim Montgomery and Shaunte see CLARKE, pg. 3

EVENT CALENDAR

Today-May 16

11 a.m.—Campus concert, Susan Svrcik, piano, in Recital Hall.
Noon—Academic Senate meeting, Faculty Lounge.

Noon—Broadcasting meeting, H 112.
7:30 p.m.—Hillel meeting, Hillel House.

Friday-May 17

8 p.m.—A Perfect Match, free admission, Shoebox Theater.

Saturday-May 18

8 p.m.—A Perfect Match, free admission, Shoebox Theater.

Sunday-May 19

7:30 p.m.—Combined Orch. & Choirs LAVC Music Dept. & COTA Symphony Assoc., Wishire United Methodist Church. Admission: \$5.

Monday-May 20

Noon—Parent Interest club meeting, Ch Dev Ctr.
Noon—Pro Choice Energizers meeting, H 101.
1 p.m.—Valley Green meeting, CC 205.

Tuesday-May 21

Noon—Art Gallery meeting, Art Bldg., 102.
Noon—Bible Study meeting, H 105.

Noon—Medically-Oriented Students Assoc. meeting, LS 114.

1 p.m.—SSS in El Salvador meeting, CC 206.

6 p.m.—Valley Green meeting, CC 203.

Wednesday-May 22

Noon—Administration of Justice meeting, B 1.
Noon—Design Assoc. meeting, MS 110.

1 p.m.—MEChA meeting, FL 111.

1 p.m.—BSU meeting, FL 112.

Slashed again, slashed again, the ax is falling and we're slashed again

(Relax folks. We're just practicing for Fall)

Still keeping poor down

By CHRISTOPHER D. SHARPE
Staff Writer

I am disgusted, citizens of California should be disgusted, community college students should be outraged.

California is the richest state in the union. If it were a country, it would be one of the ten wealthiest.

Yet, despite living in a guanxiome of prosperity, the educational system is being torn asunder. Services are being cut back and fees are being raised.

Who is going to bear the brunt of these cuts? In a society which claims to treat all equally, rich and poor, guess which group will be affected and which group will not be bothered in the least?

The rich get richer and the poor get screwed. Thank the heavens for

a rich and democratic land that treats all fairly.

This is the mentality of this country, specifically, this state. Why bother to educate the "dregs of the earth?" Once they become intelligent they'll see the abuses of the system and fight to revamp it.

So where does our government funnel all the money? Why, to the prison system. In that way these "low-lives" and "future troublemakers" will never be given the opportunity to become viable citizens and to work to forge a country that we so wrongly profess to be.

We may be 215 years old as a country, we may be on the verge of celebrating the quincentennial—500 years of genocide, in, I mean a "new way of life."

Yet, the mechanics are the same now as then; those with the money monopolize their authority and their control; those without are forced to continually dig to try to improve. The irony is when you're already in a pit, all digging does is sink you deeper in the hole.

It all comes down to with and without. Until this conflict is solved the poor will always bear the brunt of the whims of the vain and wealthy.

If that means the indigent can no longer afford an education, well you can thank our forefathers and our representatives in office. Send them a letter with your regards.

year old mind it was that simple. So I didn't go. I used every excuse I could find. I ended up missing half of the fourth grade.

Fifth grade was even worse. I didn't learn a thing. I quit and started a private school.

Unfortunately, the private school was even worse. I left again.

This terrible pattern continued. I missed half of six grade and most of eight grade. I attended only three months of ninth grade and one month of tenth.

I managed to slip through the cracks enough in tenth grade to take my California High School Proficiency test when I was 15; I passed and began attending a community college part time that fall.

The obvious question here should be how I kept entering the next grade without completing the prior one.

Actually, it was simple. Each year I invented a new excuse. One year I said I had a private tutor, but she had died so they couldn't check my records. Another year I told my new school that I had attended a private school that had closed, therefore, they couldn't check my records.

I used every excuse my childlike mind could impulsively create. Every single one of them worked!

I don't know if anyone realizes the impact of that. By the time I started college, I, technically, had a fourth grade education.

Does this bother anyone? It should. It should disturb every parent with a child in school. It should disturb every college student shelling out anywhere from \$50 to thousands of dollars for an "education" every semester.

I never, NEVER should have been able to get away with that! I consider myself extremely fortunate that I was intelligent enough to overcome my missing education. I have been working very hard in college, I even made the Dean's List last semester. A major victory for someone whose high school transcripts are laden with F's.

I was lucky. The majority of children won't get the second chance I received. When you begin dropping out of school in the fourth grade, your self-esteem can really plummet. Thank God for the little voice inside of me that said, "I'm smarter than this!"

Public officials are messing with education. They are, literally, messing with the minds of innocent children. Education should not be a privilege—it should be a right. Nobody told me the United States had become a Third World country.

What our officials are doing is worse than taking candy from a baby. They are taking education, and in essence a full life, from our children.

I'll be damned if I'll let them do that without a fight.

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Theodora Litsios
Department Chairman Roger Graham

By CATHERINE GUNN
Staff Writer

The message sent by paring the budget once again in the Los Angeles Community College District is heard loudest by the faculty, but felt most by the students.

The slashes in classes are happening year by year, little by little. Departments shrink from five to two faculty members. Creative or unusual classes are no longer offered.

Unless we view the funding decrease over the last 15 years our attitude becomes like society's approach toward the prevention of traffic fatalities. If all deaths happened on one day of the year, something would be done to make the automobile indestructible.

Remember the commercial with the Native American who sheds one large tear as he views the country deteriorate? Department chairs who have been at LAVC for at least 15 years are experiencing the same sadness.

Roger Graham, chairman of the

journalism department, watched the department he helped build into the best in the country wither. It now has half the full time professors it had one decade ago.

The Valley Star won the prestigious Pacemaker award five times in the 1970s, winning the last "Pulitzer Prize" of community college journalism in 1978. It has now lost funding for the last few issues.

Speakers, competitions, films, field trips, and much more are an essential part of the college experience. The extra enrichment is a fraction of what it used to be.

The students, many of whom are raising children, should be rewarded for their interest to go on and make a contribution. Yet what is the reward for coming to LAVC? Tuition, costly textbooks and canceled classes.

Why isn't enriching the lives of the working class and helping them improve their place as important as research at a top university? The man or woman with an average intelligence quotient is as important as the excellent student. We're heading toward an elitist society just at a time when class tension is highest.

One of two things must be done: protest or pay.

Students of LAVC are taking budget cuts passively. Complain before it is too late or it will be your class that is cut. Your education will suffer.



Slipping through school system cracks

By SUSAN M. TYRRELL
Editor in Chief

I resent having to write this column. There are plenty of things I could be doing right now. Instead, I am writing this because everyone from LAVC administrators to our irritating governor to our president seem to be forcing students to fight for the very education we are paying for.

The California school system is the most screwed up, unorganized school system I have ever heard about—or experienced.

I entered the California system when I was nine and in the fourth grade. I didn't like it. To my nine

George Bush fails student reality check

By SUSAN M. TYRRELL
Editor in Chief

President Bush wants to "reinvent American education." Allow me to take a moment to laugh.

Okay, that's better. The irony of that statement just appalls me.

It's too late.

American education has long been suffering. Yet, on April 18, Bush proposed a long range plan to help education.

Much of the plan is admirable; encouraging higher teacher pay, rewarding schools that make exceptions

to national educational progress—ideas sound nice on paper.

A reality check, however, shows two major failures in the plan. The most obvious is financial.

His sweeping education package allows very little in government spending.

Words like "encourage" and "reward" are nice—for dogs—but let the government off the hook. The burden is put on local school districts, and even business leaders.

Bush needs to exert some effort himself. Weapons are being created right and left; educated children are not.

Bush's second failure is infuriating. He has proposed voluntary nationwide standardized testing in English, math, science, history and geography for the fourth, eighth and 12th grades.

At first glance this doesn't seem to be bad, but read on and notice that, although the tests will be voluntary, colleges will be "urged" to use the test results in their admissions process. What's even more stupid is employers will be "urged" to use them when hiring.

When will education leaders get it through their idiotic midget minds that one test does not determine academic success?

Many brilliant children do not do well under the demanding pressures of standardized testing.

Some children, who are very

bright, have learning disabilities that may not even be known to them. Oftentimes, they are forced to retest or they are held back in school; many unnecessary consequences are imposed on them because of one test.

A whole other column could be written about the feelings and self-esteem of these intelligent children who grow up under the impression they are dumb because they tested low.

Maybe Bush's tests are voluntary, but it's the SAT's all over again. Colleges aren't required to use SAT scores, but I haven't found one that doesn't.

High school juniors and seniors feel incredible stress over SAT scores, scores capable of sometimes keeping them out of colleges they could have been very successful in.

If President Bush truly wants to "reinvent American education," he needs to dish out the dollars for it. Teachers have one of the most important jobs that exist, and they get paid beans for it.

Teachers should be given administrators salaries and vice versa. With more caring teachers, students will learn, then everyone could quit hiding behind the facade of standardized testing.

American education needs money and support, not just "encouragement." President Bush needs to get his priorities in order.

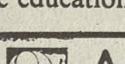
Valley Star

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★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★

The Valley Star is happy to receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers.

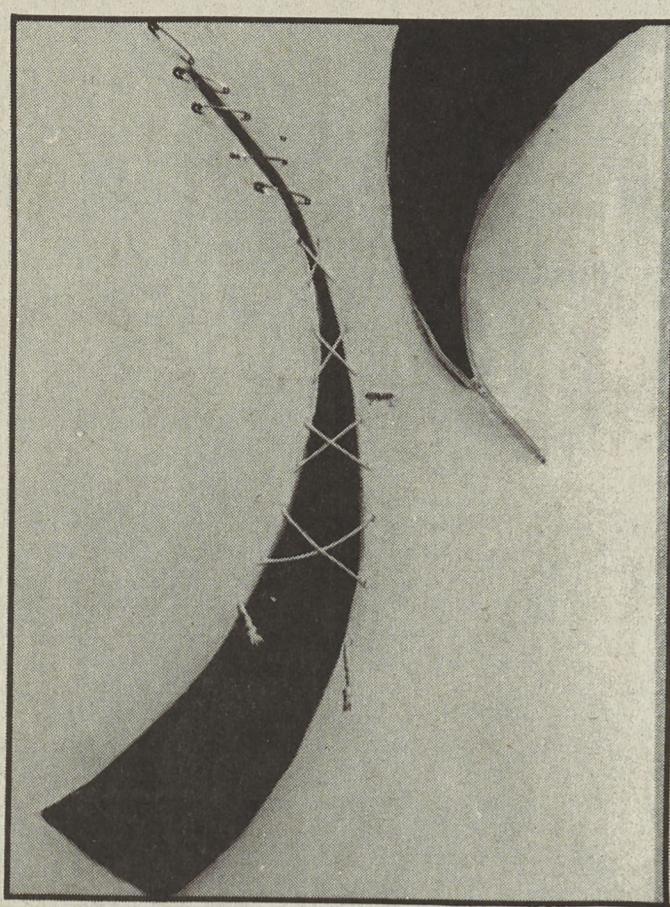


The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if

they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic or religious denigrations.

Letters should be signed and, if applicable, include student's major and ID number. Letters may be presented to the Valley Star office, Bungalow 25, by Monday for the following Thursday.

Art Contest draws 'Visions of Peace'



PEACE OFFERING — This entry "Sealing Peace" is Chitaporn Sae Guay's interpretation of peace.

By JENNIFER L. CASE
News Editor

Visions of peace created by students for an art contest were on display Monday and Tuesday in the fireside room.

Approximately 25 entries were entered in the ASU sponsored art contest "Visions of Peace" for the first prize of \$250.

Students of all majors were invited to enter two or three dimensional renditions of their interpretations of peace.

The entries were judged on Tuesday by June Harwood, Dennis Reed, and Farrel Broslawsky.

The judges awarded three cash prizes (\$250, \$150 and \$100) for the best interpretations of peace.

First place and \$250 was awarded to Barbara Freeman, a art major, for her inscribed vase entry.

Joseph Slepak, an art major,

Correction:

The *Crown* magazine that placed third in General Excellence at the Journalism Association of Community Colleges state conference in Fresno, April 19, was the Spring 1990 issue (*Star* 4/25).

took second place and \$150 home for his creation on a T-shirt. His entry used imagery of roots and eyes to suggest that to achieve peace, we must examine ourselves and go back to our roots.

Third place and \$100 was awarded to Laura Jeanine Reyes, another art major, for her woven alter creation.

Other pieces on display included paintings, drawings, sculptures and other forms of media.

One piece on display created by a theater arts major, made creative use of lighting for his piece. He made a plaster like hard substance shaped and carved into the shape of two people holding hands.

When two lights shone on the creation, the shadow it created was in the form of a peace sign.

Pearlie Rose Baluyut, Commissioner of Fine Arts organized and put the contest together, said "everyone who came in spent at least 15 minutes observing the entries."

Clarke...

(continued from pg. 1)

Parker made good time in their splits of the 1600m relay allowing them second place but Clarke had to make up for some lost time in the 400m relay for a fifth place slot.

"Six people have made up the women's team and we finished in the top ten—that's pretty impressive," Harvey said.

"But we couldn't have made it this far without the help of Dee

Stark, who has bent over backwards to give us the things we've needed to make us successful," Dick Harden, our assistant coach, Doris Castaneda, the women's coach and Mary Ann Breckell."

"Now we only have one more step to make and when you've gotten this far all you have to do is just go and just race," Harvey said.

The state championships will be held today and Friday at Hughes Stadium in Sacramento. Clarke will begin competition in the heptathlon today at 9 a.m.

Leave your troubles outside! In here life is beautiful!
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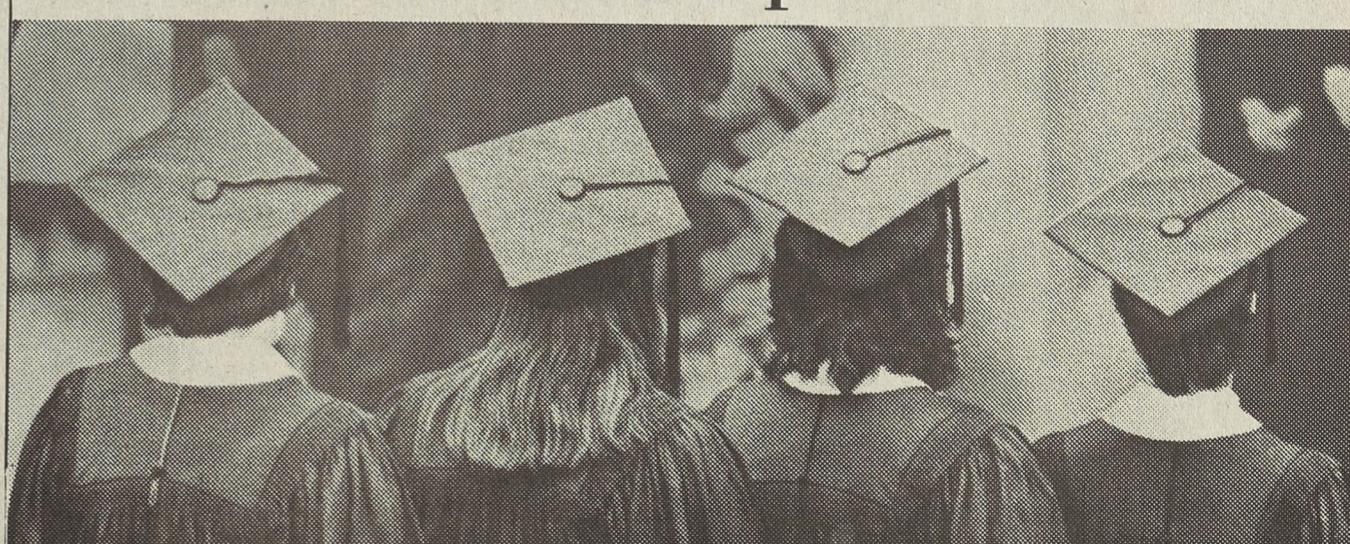
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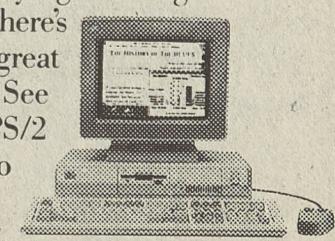
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Union...

(continued from pg. 1)

Teachers was 134 pages, but they said the administrators' contract is too long," Mayo said. "We just want the same rights as teachers."

The original thought to hire legal representation came from administrators who were beginning to feel like they had no protection, Mayo said.

After the district's decision to provide incentive for at least 20 administrators to retire this year, it also felt it would be a wise financial decision to not hire anyone to fill those positions, Mayo said.

Mayo added that "March 15th" letters, letters that terminate an employee, were also sent to administrators that weren't retiring. This also prompted the decision to seek legal counsel.

"This isn't a pressure move," Mayo said. "It is beneficial to both parties involved."

Mayo said he thinks the decision to have the Teamsters representing them will result in a better relationship among the district, higher management and the faculty. The Teamsters are the largest union in California and the nation.

"It will create a linkage between the faculty and administration," he said. "It will let faculty know that we're not the bosses and they're not the workers."

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Entertainment

Of rice and life

By KIM THRASHER
Staff Writer

A group of Asian performers called Great Leap attempts to jump the gap forged in society by racism.

Friday night's performance of their latest show, "A Slice of Rice," held in Monarch Hall, was thoroughly entertaining as well as enlightening.

The show contains four very different stories tied together by a common thread—the desire to promote cultural awareness.

"Trust," by Louise Mita, a story told by rap dance, is about a girl growing up in a ghetto.

Mita is remarkable in her ability to fluctuate from Spanish-accented English to Japanese then to Spanish and over to Japanese-accented English as she tells the story of her childhood, bringing to life the characters she grew up with.

Referring to the growth of her own cultural awareness, she compares herself to a turtle. She says, "a turtle's slow, but he sure is steady."

This genuinely humorous and touching piece even succeeded in capturing the attention of a boisterous four-year-old in the front row.

"Secrets of the Samurai Center-fielder" by Dan Kwong, utilizes metaphors brilliantly. The story of a boy's love for baseball is interposed with the story of his Chinese and Japanese heritage.

He brings to life vividly the excitement of a young boy learning about his athletic ability as he shouts for his father to throw him the ball: "Just one more, just one more!"

Kwong balances the heavy topic of racism with humor as he bellows what he calls the "holy mantra of the outfielder—'III gahhhhot iiiit!'"

Cabaret for season finale

By SAMANTHA RAPHAEL
Staff Writer

Based on the play by John Van Druten and stories by Christopher Isherwood, "Cabaret" opened at New York's Broadcast Theater in November, 1966, and immediately became the "Darling" of Broadway. Hailed as "Best Musical" of the season, "Cabaret" won the grand total of eight Tony Awards.

Cabaret transports us to Berlin, Germany, in the time period 1929-1930, just before the start of the Third Reich. An aspiring, young, American writer, (Clifford Bradshaw), from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, meets Sally Bowles, headliner performer of the Kit-Kat club. Before Cliff can say, "Gesundheit!" Sally decides to move in with him, and now the fun begins.

Under the imaginative direction of Mr. Pete Parkin, LAVC Department Chairman, "Cabaret" is the final production of the season. The music and dance numbers are memorable.

"Cabaret" is opening at LAVC on May 23. The Show starts at 8pm in the Little Theater. Cabaret will be running on May 23-25, May 30-31 and June 1. Reservations are advisable.

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In the middle of this act, a slide presentation about the first Japanese man in America and the discrimination he suffered points out again the goal of this program—to promote cultural awareness.

Breaking temporarily away from one-man acts, "English Lesson, or I Dreamt I Was Helen Keller Last Night," is a moving dance piece about an Asian girl's struggle with her English-speaking husband.

This piece was performed by three members of the troupe, Young-Ae Park, who also wrote the lyrics and choreographed the piece; Allen Tombello; and Nobuko Miyamoto, who wrote the music.

The performance of the three together has a stirring quality which transcends the race issue. In one passage there is reference to the green monster of jealousy. Green is a color which any race can take on. The music is haunting and full of emotion. Park's fluid motions soothe the eyes and heart.

The final performance by Nobuko Miyamoto, entitled "Joanne is my Middle Name," is the story of a mixed-blooded girl trying to make sense out of a mixed-up world. The key to this story is in Miyamoto's professional struggle with changing her name.

This autobiographical look at Miyamoto's life has a truly theatrical quality mixing dance, monolog and song.

The theme—Shakespeare's, "What's in a name?"—comes full circle at the end with a clever skit about a secretary (who we only hear) that hasn't got a clue about what's in a name. She can't even bother to try to pronounce Nobuko Miyamoto correctly while the two are speaking on the phone.

"Slice of Rice" delivers four powerful "slices of life."



NAMELESS? — Nobuko Miyamoto performs *What is a name?*

LAVC Theatre Arts

Back in time— to do or not to do?

By SAMANTHA RAPHAEL
Staff Writer

Another sequel to *Back to the Future*, or just a motif? Fredrick Stroppel's *Do Over* takes a look into the posterity of relationships, whether good or bad.

In an apartment, located somewhere in New York, Lisa (Rachelle Deanne Prager) is getting ready for a date with Dennis (Joseph Lauth).

Lisa clad only in underwear and a bra, finds Dennis in her apartment in his pajamas.

He has come from the future to try to make Lisa put and end to the couple's fresh relationship before it gets serious. Lisa, of course, in total disbelief, thinks Dennis is a nut.

In an attempt to make Lisa believe him, Dennis shows her a picture of the two of them at Disneyworld in the future and reveals personal information about her, including the color of her underwear on the night of their first date.

Finally, she believes him. He tells her they had an awful marriage and that she had turned from a sweet and caring girl into a witch.

In the future, Dennis tells Lisa

they are separated and even though they are apart, he is still totally and miserably in love with her.

The reason he came back to the past from the future is to beg her to set him free of this upcoming destiny of unhappiness.

The one act play had it's funny moments that Lauth helped to create. His facial expressions were those of Ricky Ricardo catching Lucy in one of his night-club acts. His dramatic frustration ignites laughter from the audience.

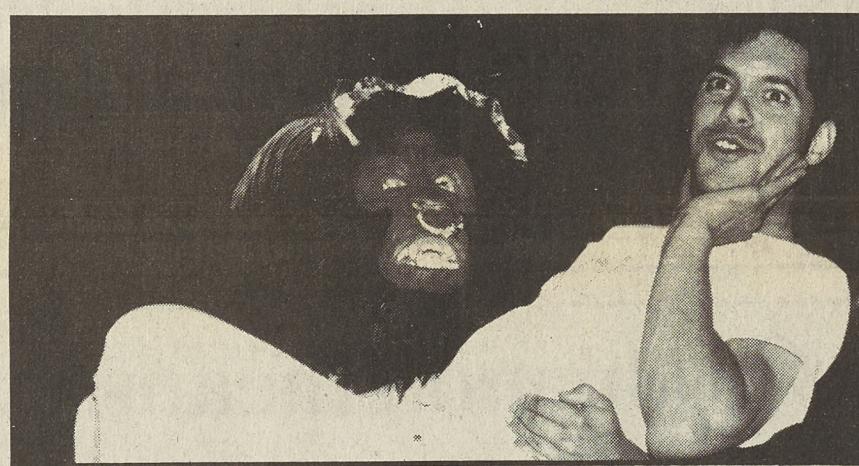
Other times the lines were funny, but not carried out as Stroppel most likely had intended.

The theater was filled with physical energy, as the actors moved around the stage.

Prager lacked vocal transition in her tone, making her character seem one-dimensional.

The script implicates a commonly related subject: relationships. A waste of time, or, a learning experience of time? What is the point of having one? Momentary satisfaction? To make time pass, (and really, doesn't it go too fast anyway?) or, because humans are just naturally self-destructive?

Do Over left anyone who has ever been in a relationship asking at least one question. *Thematically, is the future better left alone?*



GOING APE — M.C. Bob Simon and ape Steve Strati ham it up at practice.

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